



The Music of Life

*A selection of poems
to help in our
walk towards the
Kingdom of God.*



Foreword

Music and poetry played an important role in the worship of Yahweh in the past, and can do so in the present. We are invited to speak to ourselves "in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in our hearts to the Lord" (Eph. 5:19). This is helped by the poetry of word and idea blended together in harmony.

David, the sweet psalmist of Israel, was both a great musician and a superb poet. He composed his Psalms in poetic form, expressing therein beautiful word-pictures such as find harmony in the minds of all: the sufferer, the joyful, the faithful, the depressed, the troubled, the anxious, and the weary. With music he calmed the restless spirit of King Saul (1 Samuel 16:23), and in poetry he prayed and praised Yahweh, seeking His help and fellowship as he struggled with the problems of life.

We trust that this brief selection of poems may help the reader reflect on the various aspects of the life in Christ, and that it may assist, encourage and inspire along the pathway to the Kingdom of God.

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*While
the
Days
Are
Going
By*

There are lonely hearts to cherish
While the days are going by;
There are weary souls who perish
While the days are going by;
If a smile we can renew,
As our journey we pursue,
Oh the good we all may do
While the days are going by!



There's no time for idle scorning
While the days are going by;
Let our face be like the morning
While the days are going by.
Oh! the world is full of sights,
Full of sad and weeping eyes.
Help our fallen brother rise
While the days are going by.



All the loving links that bind us
While the days are going by,
One by one we leave behind us
While the days are going by;
But the seeds of good we sow,
Both in shade and shine will grow,
And will keep our hearts aglow
While the days are going by.

THE VISION OF FAITH

Art thou yet of full persuasion
That our God is truly there?
Can you see His Great Salvations
When you come to Him in prayer?
Can you see His Wondrous Being
A vision of glorious light behold
And with a faithful vision see Him
Seated on a throne of Gold?



No man yet has seen the Father,
Nor yet can he ascend so high.
But we, though weak, must reach still further
That we might unto Him draw nigh.
With confident anticipation
Of things that are for now unseen,
And hearts o'flowing with persuasion
To see fulfilment of our dream.

Hast thou yet seen Zion's brightness,
With the Lamb upon the throne?
All the saints adorned in whiteness
To whom the things of God are known?
In former days they saw the glory
Within their foreheads firmly sealed.
Them the great Judge "counted" worthy;
Thus Yaliweh's glory is revealed.



Pilgrim! *Walk carefully* — danger is near,
Work out thy journey with trembling and fear,
Snares from without, and temptations within,
Seek to entice thee again into sin.

Pilgrim! *Walk humbly* — exult not in pride,
All thou hast, is by our God supplied:
He holdeth thee up, He directeth thy ways,
To Him be the glory, to Him be the praise.

Pilgrim! *Walk cheerfully* — though the dark storm
Fill the bright sky with the clouds of alarm;
Soon will the clouds and tempest be past
And thou shalt dwell safely with Jesus at last.

THE PATH OF PROBATION

Pilgrim! *Walk steadfastly* — while it is light:
Swift are approaching the shades of the night;
All that thy Master hath bidden thee to do.
Haste to perform, for the moments are few.

Pilgrim! *Walk prayerfully* — oft wilt thou fall,
If thou forget on thy Saviour to call;
Safe shalt thou walk through each trial and care,
If thou art clad in the armour of prayer.

Pilgrim! *Walk joyfully* — trouble and pain
Cease when the haven of rest thou dost gain;
This thy bright glory, and this thy reward,
"Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord!"



*"My grace is
sufficient for thee;
for my strength is made
perfect in weakness"*
2 Corinthians 12:9

He giveth more grace as our burdens grow greater
He sendeth more strength as our labours increase;
To added afflictions he added his mercy,
To multiplied trials he multiplies peace.

When we have exhausted our store of endurance,
When our strength has failed ere the day is half done;
When we reach the end of our humble resources,
His bountiful giving is only begun.

His love has no limits, his grace has no measure,
His power no boundary known unto men;
From out of his infinite mercy and riches,
He giveth, and giveth and giveth again.



Treasured moments

Each moment is a precious jewel,
... To hold... with fond delight
... To treasure in its radiance...
While it is still in sight... We
must not plan our happiness...
On dreams set far away... Or
wish that we might turn again
...To paths of yesterday... A
moment past is not reclaimed...
For coffers filled with gold.

And none of us can chart the
course... That future days may
hold ... The moment that is here
and now... Asks that we give
our best... Of love and
understanding... And of cheer
and helpfulness... Each moment
is a precious jewel... To hold
with fond delight... For all too
quickly moments pass... Forever
from our sight.



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One Day At a Time

One day at a time, with its failures and fears,
With its hurts and mistakes, with its weakness and tears,
With its portion of pain and its burden of care;
One day at a time we must meet and must bear.

One day at a time to be patient and strong.
To be calm under trial and sweet under wrong;
Then its toiling shall pass, and its sorrow shall cease...
It shall darken and die, and the night shall bring peace.

One day at a time — but the night is so long,
And the heart is not brave, and the soul is not strong.
Take pity O Yahweh, be near all the way;
Give courage and patience, and strength for the day!

Swift cometh His answer, so clear and so sweet;
"Yea, I will be with thee, thy troubles to meet;
I will not forget thee, nor fail thee, nor grieve;
I will not forsake thee... I never will leave."



Not yesterday's load are we called on to bear,
Nor tomorrow's uncertain and shadowy care.
Why should we look forward or back with dismay?
Our needs, as our mercies, are but for the day.

One day at a time, and the day is His day;
He hath numbered its hours, though they haste or delay.
His grace is sufficient... we walk not alone!
As the day, so the strength that He giveth His own.

*Do you falter in affliction,
Does it seem too much to bear,
Does life's fiery furnace try you?
Fear it not — the Lord is there.*

*There is nothing that can harm you,
In His sight you are most dear,
And His angel walks beside you,
Ever watching, ever near.*

*Those He loves must bear a burden,
Shining forth like gold at last,
When they reach the Land of Promise,
All their tribulations past.*

*Look up! See the dawn of glory.
Soon 'twill lighten all the earth —
Christ will come to take his children,
They shall know a second birth.*

*You can bear the cross He gives you,
What if grief may be your lot?
He will bear your sorrows with you —
Obeloved, FALTERMOT!*



The Weaver *mm*

Not till the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly
Will God unroll the canvas,
And explain the reason why
The dark threads were as needful
In the Weaver's skilful hand,
As the threads of gold and silver
For the pattern He has planned

The, Frivt of Time

Did you ever stay
A moment, to think how the time
j|i " % is hastening away, Til¹!
And we cannot hinder
VJ a moment as it fliesfgt y.
I . But one tree/c dies. Jff *
And another comes straight, straight on,
And is partly gone
While we are pausing to think
it

Time pauses neuer — the day of grace
Is shortening ever,
at one unfaltering pace,
And the day of decision
71 travelling onward, with steady,
unswerving precision,
And suddenly,
Or ever we are aware — tfrnLday-Will be.

f| 1 Blessed are they ^stj\
Who," with good cause, can say:
"Amen, even so Lord Jesus,
hasten the day"

The Prophet's Vision

*Coming the day when the desert and wilderness,
Bright with its blossom shall flower as the rose;
They shall be glad and rejoice with great happiness;
Scenes of great beauty wherever one goes.*

*Lebanon, Carmel and Sharon, all excellent;
Glory of Yahweh in all shall be seen;
All shall rejoice with abundant fertility,
Where, hitherto, desolation hath been.*

*Strengthen weak hands then, and knees that are feeble;
Say to the fearful, Be strong and take heart;
Coming the day of God's vengeance and recompense.
Saving the righteous, to set them apart.*

*Then shall the lame, as the hart, leap and gambol;
Then shall the tongue of the dumb shout and sing;
Where once was all desert, clear waters are streaming.
'Stead of the wilderness, fountains shall spring.*

*Nothing unclean will be able to desecrate,
Nothing offensive to holiness mar;
Beasts of the jungle will no more intimidate,
Clear its great highway, like bright morning star.*

*Walking its precincts in joy and serenity,
All God's redeemed ones with gladness will sing;
No more for ever the sorrow sighing — but
Joy everlasting, redemption will bring.*

“All Thy Worfes Drake Thee
O Yahweh”



I will extol Thee O my God,
Yea daily I will raise
A contrite voice and trembling lips
In heartfelt prayer of praise.

A humble contrite spirit
We know God does desire
And one who trembles at His word
Is what He does require.

So spake the King of Israel
E'en David, God's belov'd
While Israel, God's people
Showed hearts of stone, unmoved.

But David saw in faith far off
God's purpose and His plan
When Yahweh's name and purpose
Be praised by every man.

Longsuffering and merciful
Our God abounds in truth
The page declares His mighty acts
To tender ears of youth.

Teach diligently every day
Bind truth upon the heart
And from His precepts and His paths
We never will depart

So daily with those who meet
Declare God's goodness great
Absorb the ever living word
God's righteousness relate.

Thy Kingdom come, our daily prayer
Ascends to God on high
Then may we live as unto Him
His Word be ever nigh.

Yahweh will uplift each one
Uphold the weak that fall
With open hand He'll satisfy
The least desires of all.

The wicked and unrighteous
Will never enter in
Or worship at His Sanctuary
With hearts and deeds of sin.

Our mouths must then extol His praise
May we be given breath
Through Olahm and the Kingdom Age
His Name and purpose bless.

His saints shall ever bless
God's righteousness proclaim
Throughout the endless ages
Extol Yah's mighty Name.

Heaven's Cure * for Earth's Care

Many a burden, many a labour,
Many a fretting care,
Busy footsteps, coming, going,
Little time for prayer.

Duties waiting on my threshold,
Will not be denied,
Others coming round the corner,
Crowding to their side.

How shall I their number master?
How shall I get through?
How keep calm amid the tumult?
Lord, what shall I do?

Give Thy strength to meet my weakness,
Give a heart at rest,
Give a childlike, truthful spirit,
Leaning on Thy breast.

Thou canst still the wildest
 conflict,
Bid the billows cease;
Thou canst fill earth's busiest
 moment
With Thy perfect peace.





The Broad & The Narrow

There is a way that is broad,
As wide as the world,
And easily trod.
But as we grow older,
It grows narrower and narrower.
Youthful joys depart,
Love ones disappear,
Strength grows less —
Until the road ends,
Just one-man wide,
Beneath the sod.

There is a Way that is narrow,
Only one-man wide,
And Jesus is his name.
To enter by this door is hard,
For "friends" are lost,
Ties are broken,
And we "die" to the past we held so dear.
But as we grow older,
This way becomes wider and lighter.
We find fellowship with all who love his name,
And are at peace with God.
"The path of the just is as the shining light
that shineth more and more unto the
coming of the perfect day."
And it ends as wide as the world,
In the Kingdom of God.



The
Day of Crisis

We shall meet the day of crisis
By the days all gone before.
It behoves us now to use them,
In God's service more and more.

If our minds and our affections
Have on things divine been cast,
We shall then stand firm and ready,
In the Judgment Day at last.

This the policy of foresight,
This the teaching of God's Word;
Let it be our firm decision,
To be followers undeterred.

Not for us just ease and pleasure,
Worldly things so light and vain;
Heeding not the way of sinners,
Disregarding worldly gain.

Then the day so unexpected,
When the Lord shall intervene,
And the righteous judgments falling,
Hitherto so long unseen;

We shall stand, if yet with trembling,
With our inner conscious clear,
Nothing we have done regretting,
And no cause for needless fear.

My Purpose

To be a little kindlier
With the passing of each day;
To leave but happy memories
As I go along my way
To use possessions that are mine
In service full and free;
To sacrifice the trivial things
For larger good to be;
To give of love in lavish way
That friendship true may live;
To be less quick to criticise
More ready to forgive;
To use such talents as I have
That happiness may grow;
To take the bitter with the sweet
Assured 'tis better so;
To be quite free from self-intent
What'er the task I do;
To help brethren's faith grow stronger,
In all that's good and true;
To keep my faith in God and right
No matter how things run;
To work and play and pray and trust
Until the journey's done.
God grant to me the strength of heart
Of motive and of will,
To do my part and falter not
His purpose to fulfil